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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/813,711

03/31/2004

Craig John Jerry

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EXAMINER

BRADFORD, CANDACE L

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3634

MAIL DATE

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PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/813,711	<b>Applicant(s)</b> JERRY, CRAIG JOHN	
	<b>Examiner</b> CANDACE L. BRADFORD	<b>Art Unit</b> 3634	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 5/29/08 amendment.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4,6-26 and 28-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4,6-11 and 32 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 12-17,19,20,22-26 and 28-31 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 18 and 21 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                     | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)          | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

### DETAILED ACTION

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 12-14, and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Lichy (5482104). Lichy discloses a door assembly 10, a flexible curtain 196, made of a pliable material capable of closing a doorway, having upper and lower ends and two opposite side edges, as best seen in Figure 1, a curtain winding mechanism 70, attached to the upper end of the curtain for raising the curtain by rolling, two straight, extruded flexible guide members 186, made of metal with resilient wall sections 188,190, having an inwardly projecting rib 210, 212, the two ribs form an elongated concave slot/split curve socket through which one of the side edges of the curtain can extend during use of the curtain, guide members are mounted to extend vertically on opposite vertical sides of the doorway during use of the door assembly, and a base 192, each guide member integrally connected to and joins the inner and outer wall sections, with a plurality of threaded fasteners holes formed therein and longitudinally space along the guide member, and wherein the door assembly includes threaded fasteners/screw 194, and subsequent holes for mounting the guide members on support surfaces and threaded fasteners in use extending into and engaging said threaded fastening holes, as best seen in Figures 1 and 17, two side edge sections of the curtain being movable in a respective guide member when the curtain is raised or lowered

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during use, spaced apart pairs of curtain lock members 198, 200, mounted on and distributed along each side edge section of the curtain, the lock members of each pair being positioned opposite one another on the front and rear surface of the curtain respectively, with at least two screws 194, and subsequent holes and the lock members of each pair are mounted on the respective side edge sections and are connected to each other by at least two screws that extend through or into the screw holes of the respective lock members, as best seen in Figure 1, the combined thickness of each pair of the lock members and said curtain material exceeding the width of the elongated slot so that pairs of lock members prevent the side edge sections of the curtain from escaping out of the guide members under normal windload or pressure conditions, wherein some curtain lock members engage with the ribs of the their respective guide members when an excessive windload or impact is put upon the curtain and this engagement causes the wall section of at least one guide member to separate from each other and thereby release the respective side edge section from at least one guide member with little if any damage to the curtain or guide members, a rigid bottom bar 22, mounted on a lower end of the curtain, having opposite ends which are located within the doorway and horizontally inwards from the guide members during use of the door assembly, where at least one pair of lock members is mounted on the each side edge of the curtain at a location horizontally outwardly from a respective adjacent end of the bottom bar, when the door is in use as best see in Figure 1.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

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The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lichy (5482104) as advanced above. Lichy as advanced above fails to disclose (a) curtain lock members with a round exterior body (see claim 2), (b) dimensions (see claim 15). With respect to (a) it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, as a matter of engineering design choice, to provide a curtain lock member with a rounded exterior, while producing no new and unexpected results. With respect to (b), it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, as a matter of engineering design choice, to provide various dimensions of the guide slot, so as to allow for various sizes of curtains to be used.

Claims 24-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lichy (5482104) in view of Indoe (5747738). Lichy fails to disclose a wear resistant material. Indoe discloses a wear resistant material made of polyvinyl chloride, as recited in column 3, line 60, affixed to both sides of the curtain, as best seen in Figure 2. The use of wear resistant materials is commonly used in the art to protect the door curtain against constant and excessive wear as it operates within the guide members. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide the door curtain assembly of Lichy with a wear resistant material as taught by Indoe so as

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to protect the door curtain against constant and excessive wear as it operates within the guide members.

Claims 17, 19, 20, 22 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lichy (5482104) in view of Indoe (5747738). Lichy as advanced above fails to disclose curtain lock members with a round exterior body (see claim 2), at least one hole for a mechanical fastener form in the main body, and a wear resistant material.

With respect to curtain lock members with a round exterior body, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, as a matter of engineering design choice, to provide a curtain lock member with a rounded or tapered exterior, while producing no new and unexpected results. It would have been further obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, as a matter of engineering design choice, to provide various dimensions of the guide slot, so as to allow for various sizes of curtains to be used.

Indoe discloses a wear resistant material made of polyvinyl chloride, as recited in column 3, line 60, affixed to both sides of the curtain, as best seen in Figure 2. The use of wear resistant materials is commonly used in the art to protect the door curtain against constant and excessive wear as it operates within the guide members.

With respect to the pins and corresponding holes as connection means of the mechanical fasteners, the use of pins are commonly used in the art to provide additional securing assistance in holding or securing curtain locks in place. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide pins as a connection

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means to art to provide additional securing assistance in holding or securing curtain locks in place.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide the door curtain assembly of Lichy with a wear resistant material as taught by Indoe so as to protect the door curtain against constant and excessive wear as it operates within the guide members.

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 18 and 21 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but may be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 1-4, 6-11 and 32 are allowed. The prior art of record fails to teach or suggest the claimed features absent the applicant's own disclosure.

### ***Response to Arguments***

The examiner would like to acknowledge that claims 1-4, 6-11 and 32 are allowed. However the applicant's arguments filed 5/9/08 regarding claims 12-26 and 28-31 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The Lichy in view of Indoe as advanced above clearly disclose the claimed invention.

### ***Conclusion***

**THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CANDACE L. BRADFORD whose telephone number is (571)272-8967. The examiner can normally be reached on 9am until 5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Katherine Mitchell can be reached on (571) 272-7069. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.



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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/KATHERINE W MITCHELL/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art  
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Candace L. Bradford  
Patent Examiner  
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August 17, 2008